

23/07/2024

Dear Pupils, Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

As we finish at the end of another school year, this year is different for me as I also leave Oulton. Over the past 8 years, Oulton has very much been a second family to me. We have navigated both good and bad times. When difficult things did happen, I was always heartened by how the school community rallied around to support the school, staff, families and the wider community. The Oulton community really is something special.

I leave with many fond memories of my time at Oulton with many more flooding back when watching the memories video in assembly today. Again, the staff have done us proud with another amazing end of year video; there are some obviously some staff with talents that they have kept hidden! A big thanks to Miss Brown, who worked hard to pull these both together and battled through some technical difficulties.

Luckily, in assembly, I was able to get away with only 2 gungings; 1 makeover by the Ugly Sisters; 1 ice bath; 2 cream pies to the face; being covered in shredded paper; having my feet in baked beans; inhaling a large quantity of flour; eating a spoonful of instant coffee, cinnamon, ginger paste and spicy crisps; eating a super sour 'Toxic Waste' whilst being engaged in a dubiously judged competition between me and some of our talented pupils. Some people would say that the costumes that I had to wear for each round of the competition was worse than the forfeits!

I would like to thank the pupils, staff and governors for their generous gifts, cards and messages of luck. These all mean a lot and I am touched by the affection that I have received over the last few days.

Year 6 left us today and I wish them all the best in their new adventures. They have been a credit to themselves and the school. They have worked hard, and this is clear to see in the progress that they have made both as learners and young people. They have made the most of their final few weeks and we have had a lot of fun with Oulton Fest, Junior Warrior, their fabulous Cinderella production and much more. Good luck, Year 6. Aim high and keep working hard. We will miss you all!

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the entire school staff team. They are a fantastic team who work extremely hard for the benefit of all pupils. Without their commitment and hard work, school would not be the happy and purposeful place it is. I can only hope that I have such a committed team in my new school.

I am extremely confident that Miss Cooper and Miss Brown will do an excellent job looking after the school until Mr McAlinden starts as our new Head Teacher in January. I wish them all the best in their new roles as they continue to move the school forward.

I hope that you all take the opportunity over the summer to have a well-deserved break, do the things you like to do and make some memories.

I wish the entire school community the best of luck for the future and every success. My time at Oulton will always have a special place in my heart.

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Horton', written in a cursive style.

Mr Horton  
Head Teacher